

Reading your Water Meter



Good to know:

- Residential water meters in the City of Santa Clara record water usage in cubic feet (cf).
- When reading residential meters, the two digits at the far right are disregarded.
- Water usage is billed in multiples of 100 cubic feet (called units)
- 1 cf = 7.48 gallons
- 100 cubic feet (HCF) = 748 gallons = 1 unit

If you suspect you have a leak:

See if your water meter has a **leak indicator** (generally, a small dial or wheel, as pictured). If water is not used anywhere in your home or garden & the wheel is turning, you have a leak. Leak indicator wheel isn't turning? Review your water bills. Check the usage history to see how current water use compares to prior months and years.

No leak Indicator? Use your **water meter** to check for leaks in **5 easy steps**:

1. Locate your water meter.
2. Make sure no water is running in the house or yard.
3. Read the meter and record the reading.
4. After 15-20 minutes without using water, re-check the meter.
5. If the reading has changed, you have a leak.

To calculate the extent of the leak:

- Divide the change in number of cubic feet by the elapsed time, giving you the rate in cubic feet per hour.
- Multiply the number of cubic feet per hour by 7.48 to get gallons per hour.

We never have enough water to waste! Regardless how big or insignificant the leak...

Call (408) 615-2000 for a free leak check appointment.

The City technician will perform a leak check at the meter, but will not enter your property. It's your responsibility fix the leak with a plumber's help & at the property owner's discretion.

Register for the City of Santa Clara's WaterSmart Program.

Opt to receive leak alerts, billing & informational notifications by phone, email or text message. Explore the detailed water tracking information, conservation strategies, step-by-step troubleshooting & repair guides.

As responsible Santa Clarans, we know that conservation is up to all of us.

Let's save our water together!